

Lastly, you will see meanings given for each card in both its 'upright' position and its 'reversed' or 'upside down' position. That is, in the upright position, the figures on the card are in a normal position, and the card number—for example, the card, The Fool (0)—points outward and away from you. In the reversed or upside down position, the picture literally appears upside down or reversed, and the card number—as with the example of The Fool—points inward and toward you.

The meanings of the two positions of each card must first be memorized and then studied and contemplated. You will understand why all of this is necessary when we

study the 'Flow' on the Tree.

The Fool (0)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 11 (Eleven)—Aleph—Connecting Kether and Chokmah. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: Foolhardiness in action; foolishness in thought and deed; wildly excessive behavior; extravagant behavior, thoughts, and propositions. A greatly exaggerated sense of one's own importance and position in life; fantastic ideas and speculations. In the reversed position: trouble stemming from the extravagances listed above. Also difficulties from indecision, vacillation, and irresolution.

The Magician (I)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 12 (Twelve)—Beth—Connecting Kether and Binah. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: power of the individual's resolve; appropriate skills to meet the task at hand; power of the will to effect the change desired; confidence in one's own ideas, abilities, and the determination to carry them through to completion. In the reversed position: conceit; lack of appropriate skills for the task at hand; lack of self confidence; lack of will to effect the change(s) sought; lack of individual power and resolve to effect the ends desired.

The High Priestess (II)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 13 (Thirteen)—Gimel—Connecting Kether and Tiphareth. Sensible Mean-

ing to scientific education. Also, educational matters in general. Logical thought; rational thinking and cogent argument style; cognitive skills. In the reversed position illiteracy; ignorance; shallowness of thought and idea surface knowledge; a lack of structure of the knowledge one is seeking.

ing in Malkuth. In the upright position: knowledge; deep thought; scientific thought, ideas, and all matters pertain

The Empress (III)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 14 (Fourteen)—Daleth—Connecting Chokmah and Binah. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: fecundity in all matters, prolific results; accomplishment; the act of doing, fruitfulness in all things; earthiness; creativity. In the reversed position: dissipation of one's energy; loss of power in general; incomplete results due to hesitancy, indecision, or

The Emperor (IV) Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 15 (Fifteen)—

irresolution in acting.

Heh—Connecting Chokmah and Tiphareth. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: one's right or prerogative to rule or to determine for one's self; authority; command; control; domination; effective action; mastery; might; the power of reason; justification; the making of rationalizations that are right and just. In the reversed position: juvenile, childish emotions and their display; loss of authority, control, and command. Blocked plans and

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schemes.

The Hierophant (V)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 16 (Sixteen)—

Vav—Connecting Chokmah and Chesed. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the **upright** position: kindness; mercy; righteousness; morality; virtue; the quality of goodness; a person who exhibits these high human qualities. In the

reversed position: excessive kindness; excessive mercy; weakness resulting from such excess; the inability to discern such excess, due to a lack of emotional control.

The Lovers (VI)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 17 (Seventeen) —Zayin—Connecting Binah and Tiphareth. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the **upright** position: a trial in life or an experiment of a personal nature that you will successfully conclude; the emergence of a new affection or object of devotion, whether it be a person or new interest of some type. In the **reversed** position: a failed life-trial or experiment; the loss of affection for a person or interest.

The Chariot (VII)

Cheth—Connecting Binah and Geburah. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: victory, conquest, overcoming odds and obstructions, but only after battle. In the reversed position: defeat after battle; obstructions to plans and actions; plans and actions defeated by either internal or external obstructions and obstacles, but once again, only after battle. Commentary: this card, and card XVI—The Tower, Path 27, Peh—are the most difficult cards of the Greater Arcana. With either card, the plans made, the opportunities that arise, and the actions taken under their influence, have an extremely grim, major component to them. Of the two cards however, this card (VII) The Chariot, is perhaps surprisingly the hardest of the two to work with, even in its upright position, for it bespeaks of a long, arduous struggle which will take a heavy toll on the individual, even though he or she will become victorious (when it is in the upright position).

Strength (VIII)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 19 (Nineteen)—Teth—Connecting Chesed and Geburah. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: metaphysical or spiritual force and strength; inner strength which overcomes danger and adversity. The strength through which the Holy warrior battles against overwhelming odds, and victoriously subdues and overcomes a great threat. Subjugation of opposition through spiritual power. In the reversed position: power and strength, but physical in

nature. Endurance and determination in matters requiring physical strength, and the physical prowess through which these qualities are sustained.

The Hermit (IX)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 20 (Twenty)—Yod—Connecting Chesed and Tiphareth. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: deliberation, due to watchful attention, or a feeling of caution; a warning, things are not as they seem. Also, the furthering of psychic growth. In the reversed position: excessive self-admonition or over cautiousness in important matters; imprudent actions; ill-advised activities; indiscreet behavior.

The Wheel of Fortune (X)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 21 (Twentyone)—Kaph—Connecting Chesed and Netzach. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: beneficence; expansiveness; growth; money; good luck; good fortune; success. In the reversed position: ill fortune; the reversal of dame fortune; hardship; loss; contraction; struggle; failure.

Justice (XI)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 22 (Twenty-two)—Lamed—Connecting Geburah and Tiphareth. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: harmony, justice, stability; poise; equilibrium; balance. In the reversed position: conflict, injustice; instability; imbalance, intolerance.

The Hanged Man (XII)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 23 (Twenty-three)—Mem—Connecting Geburah and Hod. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: the acquisition of knowledge which eventually matures into wisdom. The process is slow however, and as with life in general, requires sacrifices on the part of the individual for that knowledge to ripen into wisdom. In the reversed position: self-centeredness; concern for one's self exclusively at the obvious expense of others; sly, deceptive behavior designed to have one accepted by the group or masses.

Death (XIII)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 24 (Twenty-four)—Nun—Connecting Tiphareth and Netzach. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: physical death; an end; a massive, nebulous change or transformation in the individual, comparable to the end of a part of the self as occurs—for example—in the Attainment of the K&C of the HGA. In the reversed position: corruption; disintegration; decomposition through putrefaction; stasis. Commentary: this Path is not as difficult as it sounds. In reality, its meanings usually refer to the evolution and development of the Self through the process of self-growth, the means used to achieve this state notwithstanding. It is a hard path in terms of process, but its end results are stunning and utterly glorious.

Temperance (XIV)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 25 (Twenty-five)—Samech—Connecting Tiphareth and Yesod. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: to unite or wed seemingly disparate concepts, ideas, or actions in a positive and beneficial way; the use of temperate or measurable means and ways in thoughts and actions; a balanced approach to a problem, and the judicious implementation of its solution. In the reversed position: disparate concepts, ideas, or actions which cannot be conjoined or united; disagreement; loggerheads; an extreme approach to a problem and its unbalanced implementation, which not only does not resolve the original problem, but which creates additional problems as a result of the extreme measures employed.

The Devil (XV)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 26 (Twenty-six)—Ayin—Connecting Tiphareth and Hod. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: an eventual beneficial or favorable result arises from a seemingly deleterious event or situation. In the reversed position: that same situation produces a unfavorable or very unsat-

isfactory result, or is concluded in some negative and possibly harmful manner.

The Tower (XVI)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 27 (Twenty-seven)—Peh—Connecting Netzach and Hod. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: devolution; downfall; degeneration; decadence; disaster; calamity; tragedy; woes; catastrophe, disruption. In the reversed position: the same, but to a lesser degree. Commentary: this card, and card VII—The Chariot—along with their Paths, are by far the most difficult and dangerous Paths on the Tree. As you will see when working the Cycles System, their influence is to be watched for carefully at all times, and avoided if at all possible.

The Star (XVII)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 28 (Twenty-eight)—Tzaddi—Connecting Netzach and Yesod. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: happy expectation; joyful expectancy; happy prospects; an exciting future filled with many possibilities. In the reversed position: happy expectations and joyful expectancies are disappointed or thwarted; emptiness; effeteness.

The Moon (XVIII)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 29 (Twentynine)—Qoph—Connecting Netzach and Malkuth. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: secret enemies; cunning on the part of others for their own ends; deceit; duplicity; concealed forces in operation; hidden enemies; conspiracies against the individual innocently involved in a matter or situation. In the reversed position: the same, but to a lesser extent.

The Sun (XIX)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 30 (Thirty)—Resh—Connecting Hod and Yesod. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: bliss; happiness; contentment; joy; desires and goals achieved; wants satisfied;

appeasement in general. In the **reversed** position: the same, but to a lesser extent.

The Last Judgment (XX)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 31 (Thirtyone)—Shin—Connecting Hod and Malkuth. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: rejuvenation; renewals of all types; outcomes reached; new beginnings; fresh starts. In the reversed position: problems causing efforts to bog down; delays; reversals; cowardly behavior.

The World (XXI)

Corresponding Path on the Tree: Number 32 (Thirty-two)—Tav—Connecting Yesod and Malkuth. Sensible Meaning in Malkuth. In the upright position: completion; assured success; compensation; remuneration; repayment; recompense; a prosperous or thriving conclusion. In the reversed position: stagnation, inertia; stasis; failed project or attempt; failure as a force, in general.

At this point, I would like to call the reader's attention to one very important point. Please keep it in mind as you proceed through the next chapters. As you will see, we will be using a simple mnemonic device to place the planets in the Kabbalistic Cycles Chart. (Chapter Seven) And as usual, the reason for doing so will be explained.

In like manner, there is a consideration here with the twenty-two Tarot cards of the Greater Arcana, of which you need to be aware. That is, cards Zero (0) through Five (V), and cards XVIII, XX, and XXI, are not used in the Kabbalistic Cycles System.

Of course, you have probably deduced the reason for this yourself, having diligently studied the Sephiroth and Paths. But just in case, let's take an initiated look as to why these eight particular cards are not used.

Specifically, cards Zero (0) through Five (V) are assigned to Paths that connect the highest three Sephiroth on the Tree in such a way that at least one of the first two Supernals—Kether or Chokmah—are always involved. Being involved, they do not enter into the stream of daily, mundane life. Neither do those mundane planetary attri-